



Goodwin Elementary Announcements & Event Notices for 11/7/2014

- *Good News From Goodwin Newsletter*
- *Mansfield Public Schools Letter from Rachel Leclerc, Acting Superintendent*
- *Early closing & Emergency closing day hours & information*
- *Goodwin Thanksgiving Feast Volunteers*

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Good News from Goodwin

ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians:

With November arriving, the school year seems to be flying by and our November calendar is making it go even faster. Please be aware of the scheduled school calendar with three early release days, two holidays and one Professional Development day. Here are a few notes regarding events in November:

Progress Reports

Progress Reports will be sent home on Friday, November 21st. This will allow you to review the report prior to meeting with your child's teacher during the conference that has been set up for you.

Parent Conferences

Parent conferences are being held on Monday, November 24th from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday November 25th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. We have worked hard to assure that all parents have the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher. If you have not signed up for a conference time, please contact your child's teacher right away. While this is a parent conference, if students attend, they must accompany their parents at all times during the evening. The Book Fair will be open during this time as well for you to browse. Additionally, there is no afternoon Pre-k classes due to the early closing of school.

Conference days are early release days for students with dismissal at 12:45 a.m. (Nov. 24 and 25).

Wednesday, the 26th is also an early dismissal day.

Thanksgiving Feast

I am looking forward to our traditional Thanksgiving Feast, where it is time for our staff and students to sit together as a family and enjoy from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Dinner is served by parent volunteers along with other volunteers. **Please remember that many hands make light work for set up, serving and clean-up.** A volunteer form already went home but let us know if you would like another form or send in the form before November 12th. Thank you so much for everything you do to support our Goodwin community.

Warmly,

Susan

Upcoming Events For November

11/6 Heritage Potluck Dinner 6-7:00 pm

11/10 Professional Day-no school

11/11 Veterans Day—no school

11/12 PTO Meeting 6:30-7:30

11/13-11/20 World Kindness Drive

11/17 Grade 4 Field Trip Mashantucket Pequot Museum

11/21 Goodwin's Thanksgiving Feast

11/24 Scholastic Book Fair

11/24-11/26 No Preschool Classes

- Please check our school website calendar for events, teacher emails, general district information
- Please remember to call the school office if your child is to be absent.

Children who have cold/flu symptoms need to be fever free for 24 hours, without the use of fever reducing medication, before returning to school.



THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF MANSFIELD, CONNECTICUT

RACHEL D. LECLERC, Ed.D., ACTING SUPERINTENDENT

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268
Phone: (860) 429-3350

November 7, 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I write to provide the annual reminder about adjustments we must make when winter weather forces us to change our school and bus schedules. As most of you know, winter weather in New England is unpredictable at best. Mansfield frequently finds itself on a rain/ice/snow line. Parents at one end of town may wonder why we have called a delay, while parents at the other end of town will expect a cancellation.

There will be occasions when we will have to delay the opening of school, cancel classes or dismiss early because of road conditions. I am sensitive to the inconvenience these decisions cause our families; however, the issue of greatest importance is the safety of children. *You are encouraged to make your own assessment of weather conditions and keep your child at home if you feel a trip to school might be too dangerous.*

I must make the decision regarding a schedule adjustment no later than 5:30 a.m. I base it upon information I receive from the town road superintendent, the bus manager and weather forecasters. *For delayed openings, buses will pick up students 90 minutes later than usual.* Schools will close at the regular time. There may be an occasion on which school must be closed early due to an approaching storm or due to increasingly difficult road conditions that make a normal closing hazardous. *If you will not be home during the day, you must make arrangements for someone to receive your child in the event of an early closing.* Early closings will be 2 hours and 45 minutes in advance of the regular dismissal time. Please note the schedule on the reverse page.

This year, we will continue to use an automated communication system to send a recorded phone message announcing school closings/delayed openings/early closings to all parents using the phone numbers provided by parents/guardians to each school. This audio message will go to parents' emails as well. Additionally, all announcements of cancellations, late openings or early closings will be made using the local media's television/radio stations. Many of these stations also post these announcements on their websites.

In addition, we can send a SMS text message to the cell phone of parent contact 1 and 2 on record in the school office for each child. In order to receive the SMS text message, you need to "opt-in". The process is simple and only takes a few seconds to complete. Simply send a text to 68453 from your cell phone(s) with the word "yes". If you do not opt-in, you will not receive the SMS text message.

If a delayed opening has been announced, you should continue to monitor local media or their websites for further information. Road conditions may deteriorate and a 90 delay may become a cancellation for the full day. *Please be sure that your children are dressed appropriately in case they have to wait longer for a bus that may be delayed due to poor road conditions.* We ask that you retain the reverse side of this letter for future reference. Your cooperation, understanding and assistance with these weather-related items are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rachel D. Leclerc, Ed.D.

-Over, please-

EARLY-CLOSING DAYS / EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

HOURS—REGULAR SCHOOL DAY	
Grades K-4	School starts - 8:55 AM; School ends - 3:30 PM
Morning Preschool & Half-Day Kindergarten	Session starts - 8:55 AM; Session ends - 11:45 AM
Afternoon Preschool	Session starts - 12:50 PM; Session ends - 3:30 PM
Grades 5-8	School starts - 8:05 AM; School ends - 2:50 PM

90-MINUTE DELAYED OPENING*	
Grades K-4	School starts - 10:30 AM; School ends - 3:30 PM
Morning Preschool & Half-Day Kindergarten	CANCELLED
Afternoon Preschool	Session starts - 12:50 PM; Session ends - 3:30 PM
Grades 5-8	School starts - 9:35 AM; School ends - 2:50 PM

SCHEDULED EARLY-CLOSING DAYS (November 24, 25, 26 and June 22)	
Grades K-4	School starts - 8:55 AM; School ends - 12:45 PM
Half-Day Kindergarten	School day extended, dismisses - 12:45 PM <i>Note: Lunch will be provided</i>
Grades 5-8	School starts - 8:05 AM; School ends - 12:05 PM

DELAYED OPENING ON A SCHEDULED EARLY-CLOSING DAY	
<i>Early closing is CANCELLED and normal closing time observed</i>	
Grades K-4	School starts - 10:30 AM; School ends - 3:30 PM
Morning Preschool & Half-Day Kindergarten	CANCELLED
Afternoon Preschool	CANCELLED
Grades 5-8	School starts - 9:35AM; School ends - 2:50 PM

EMERGENCY EARLY CLOSING OF SCHOOL	
Grades K-4	School dismisses - 12:45 PM
Morning Preschool & Half-Day Kindergarten	School day extended, dismisses - 12:45 PM <i>Note: Lunch will be provided</i>
Afternoon Preschool	CANCELLED
Grades 5-8	School dismisses - 12:05 PM

For information regarding school closing due to inclement weather or other emergencies, tune in to one of the following radio or television stations:

Radio: WILI 1400 AM & 98.3 FM, WTIC 1080 AM, WTIC FM 96.5, WRCH FM 100.5, WZMX FM 93.7
Television: WFSB (3), WVIT (30), WTIC (6), WTNH (8), Cable Channel 14

School Messenger recorded phone messages will announce school closings or other emergencies. Information is also available via a message on your school's main phone number.

**Stay tuned. If weather conditions deteriorate, a delay could become a full-day cancellation.*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Goodwin Thanksgiving Feast

Friday November 21, 2014

It is a tradition for the students and staff members of Dorothy C. Goodwin School to sit down as a family and have a special Thanksgiving meal together. The lights are dimmed, background music plays, and a full Thanksgiving meal is served. It is a wonderful experience!

Many volunteers are needed in order to make this event successful. Help is needed to set up, decorate, serve food, pass out milk, and clean up. If you can, please fill out and return the bottom section of this form. If you have any questions, please contact Feast Parent Coordinator

In order to make this major event run smoothly, we have a few requests of our parent volunteers:

- Due to space limitations, parents/volunteers will *not* be eating at the feast (only students and staff members are feasting on this day).
- Please do not bring younger children during this time.
- While we try our best to arrange for a parent to serve his/her child's class on that day, our main goal is to make sure everyone gets served.

✂

2014 Thanksgiving Feast Parent Volunteer Sign-Up

Please return to your child's classroom or school office by November 12th

- ☐ I am available to help on Friday, November 21st. Let me know what you need!
- ☐ I can set up/decorate from 9:30am-11:30am
- ☐ I can serve food from 11:30am-1:00pm
- ☐ I can clean up from 1:00pm-2:30pm

Volunteer's Name: _____ Email: _____

Child's Name: _____ Tel #: _____

Teacher: _____

Thank you!